data base of Reserve Bank of India, therefore, does not generate information regarding cases pending in various courts relating to bouncing of cheques under the Negotiable Instruments Act. However, based on the information received from Public Sector Banks, there are at present about 3024 cheque bounce cases pending in Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. In order to reduce pendency, the Negotiable Instruments Act was amended in December, 2002 and a new Section 143 was inserted providing for summary trial of cases under the Act. The Section also provides that every endeavour shall be made by the Court to conclude the trial within six months of filing the complaint.

Exclusion of bank officials from purview of CVC

1436. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under consideration of Government to exclude certain categories of bank officers from the purview of the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. To facilitate quick and efficient decision making, it had been proposed to the CVC to review its jurisdiction in respect of officers of public sector banks. However, at present, CVC has not agreed to the proposal.

(c) Does not arise.

Volcker report

1437. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the names of 125 Indian companies figure in the Volcker report which were involved in Oil-for-Food Programme of the UN in Iraq;